

Application No. 10/635,483
Amendment dated December 23, 2005
Reply to Examiner's Report of June 28, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A mandible positioning device, comprising upper and lower bite blocks and an adjustable connection interconnecting said upper and lower bite blocks, said adjustable connection including a manually adjustable member screw for displacing said lower bite block relative to said upper bite block and said adjustable connection protruding forwardly from said upper and lower bite blocks so that, in use of said mandible positioning device, said manually adjustable member connection is located in front of a patient fitted with said mandible positioning device.
2. (original): A mandible positioning device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the manually adjustable member controls displacement of the lower bite block forwardly relative to the upper bite block.
3. (currently amended): A mandible positioning device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said adjustable connection includes a further manually adjustable member screw for displacing said upper and lower bite blocks towards and away from one another.
4. (currently amended): A mandible positioning device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said adjustable connection comprises first and second forward projections extending from said upper and lower bite blocks, respectively, and wherein said first-mentioned manually adjustable member screw comprises a first adjustment screw having a longitudinal axis extending forwardly from said mandible positioning device, and said further manually adjustable member screw comprises a second adjustment screw having a longitudinal axis perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of said first adjustment screw.

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5. (original): A mandible positioning device as claimed in claim 4, wherein said adjustable connection device includes a third screw having a longitudinal axis parallel to the longitudinal axis of said second adjustment screw, and a locknut on said third screw.

6. (original): A pharyngeal airway adjuster, comprising:

mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components on opposite sides of a plane extending therebetween;

an adjustable connection between said mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components,

said adjustable connection comprising a first adjustment screw having a longitudinal axis parallel to said plane, and a second adjustment screw having a longitudinal axis perpendicular to said plane.

7. (original): A pharyngeal airway adjuster as claimed in claim 6, wherein said maxillary dentition engagement component has a slot extending parallel to said first-mentioned adjustment screw and said second adjustment screw extends through said slot into threaded engagement with said mandibular dentition engagement component.

8. (currently amended): A pharyngeal airway adjuster, comprising:

mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components on opposite sides of a plane extending therebetween; and

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a manually adjustable connection between said mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components,

said manually adjustable connection including manually adjustable ~~means~~ screws for effecting relative displacement of said mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components parallel and perpendicular to said plane.

9. (currently amended): A pharyngeal airway adjuster as claimed in claim 8, wherein said adjustable connection includes first and second members screws which are manually adjustable independently of one another for displacing the mandibular and maxillary dentition components parallel to said plane and perpendicular to said plane, respectively.

10. (currently amended): A pharyngeal airway adjuster, comprising:

mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components;

an adjustable connection between said mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components,

said adjustable connection being manually adjustable to effect relative vertical and horizontal displacement of said mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components, and

said adjustable connection includes first and second adjustment members which are manually adjustable independently of one another for effecting the relative vertical and horizontal adjustment, respectively, of said mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components.

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11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended): A pharyngeal airway adjuster as claimed in claim 10, wherein said adjustable connection protrudes forwardly from said mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components so that, in use of said pharyngeal airway adjuster, said adjustable connection is located ~~in front of~~ forwardly from the dentition of a patient fitted with said pharyngeal airway adjuster.

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A pharyngeal airway adjuster, comprising;

mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components;

an adjustable connection between said mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components,

said adjustable connection being manually adjustable to effect relative vertical and horizontal displacement of said mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components;

said adjustable connection protruding forwardly of said mandibular and maxillary dentition engagement components so as to accessible ~~from~~ at the exterior of a patient's mouth when said pharyngeal airway adjuster is in use.

15. (original): A mandible adjustment device, comprising an upper bite block, a lower bite block and a manually adjustable connection between said upper and lower bite blocks, said adjustable

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connection comprising a first adjustment screw which is rotatably adjustable to effect relative displacement of said upper and lower bite blocks forwardly and rearwardly relative to one another and a second adjustment screw which is rotatably adjustable to effect relative adjustment of said upper and lower bite blocks towards and away from one another.

16. (original): A mandible adjustment device as claimed in claim 14, wherein said connection projects forwardly of said upper and lower bite blocks.

17. (original): A mandible adjustment device, comprising an upper bite block, a lower bite block and an adjustable connection between said upper and lower bite blocks, said adjustable connection comprising a first adjustment screw having an axis extending in a posterior and anterior direction relative to said device and a second adjustment screw having an axis extending in an upward and downward direction relative to said device.

18. (original): A mandible adjustment device as claimed in claim 16, wherein said adjustable connection protrudes forwardly from said upper and lower bite blocks.

19. (new): A mandible positioning device for displacing mandible and maxillary dentitions of a patient relative to one another, the mandible positioning device comprising:-

upper and lower bite blocks;

upper and lower projections extending forwardly from said upper and lower bite blocks, respectively;

an adjustable connection between said upper and lower projections, said adjustable

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connection comprising a first adjustment member which is manually adjustable to displace said upper and lower bite blocks vertically relative to one another and a second adjustment member which is manually adjustable to displace said upper and lower bite blocks horizontally relative to one another;

said adjustable connection being located forwardly from the upper and lower bite blocks so as to protrude beyond the mouth and lips of the patient.

20. (new): A mandible positioning device as claimed in claim 19, wherein said first and second adjustment members comprise first and second adjustment screws.

21. (new): A mandible positioning device as claimed in claim 19, wherein said adjustable connection comprises first and second forward projections extending from said upper and lower bite blocks, respectively, and wherein said first-mentioned manually adjustable member comprises a first adjustment screw having a longitudinal axis extending forwardly from said mandible positioning device, and said further manually adjustable member comprises a second adjustment screw having a longitudinal axis perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of said first adjustment screw.

22. (new): A mandible positioning device as claimed in claim 21, wherein said adjustable connection device includes a third screw having a longitudinal axis parallel to the longitudinal axis of said second adjustment screw, and a locknut on said third screw.

23. (new): A mandible positioning device for displacing mandible and maxillary dentitions of a patient relative to one another, the mandible positioning device comprising:-

upper and lower bite blocks;

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upper and lower projections extending forwardly from said upper and lower bite blocks, respectively;

an adjustable connection between said upper and lower bite blocks, said adjustable connection comprising a first adjustment screw which is rotatable to displace said upper and lower bite blocks vertically relative to one another and a second adjustment screw which is rotatable to displace said upper and lower bite blocks horizontally relative to one another;

said adjustable connection being between the upper and lower projections of said upper and lower bite blocks.